



EQUITY DIMENSIONS OF ADAPTATION

FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL ADAPTAION FORUM

Working Group Discussion with

Denise Fairchild, Ph.D.

Emerald Cities Collaborative

Sarah White, Ph.D.

University of Madison - Wisconsin, Center of Workforce Strategies (COWS)

WORKING GROUP OBJECTIVES

- Highlight Equity Issues and Challenges in Resiliency and Adaptation Efforts
- Identify Strategies/Best Practices to Mitigate Equity Challenges
- Create a learning community
 - Identify Resources and Innovations to Promote Equity in Adaptation

EQUITY ISSUES/CHALLENGES

- Clarifying Definitions
 - Adaptation
 - Resilience

- Clarifying Strategies
 - Environmental
 - Economic
 - Social

DEFINING ADAPTATION: THE EQUITY TRAP

Biological definition – adapting to evolutionary changes. Natural selection, fitness, extinction.

 inherent equity issue as it focuses on natural evolution process and the survival of the fittest under environmental changes/challenges.

DEFINING RESILIENCE: THE EQUITY CONUNDRUM

To maintain core purpose, with integrity in the widest of circumstances

Clarifying the Questions: So, what is the core purpose?

- Resilience of What economy, ecosystem, infrastructure & distributions systems cities, civil society?
- Resilient to What psychological distress, economies, climate change, destitution?
- Resilience for What:
 - Maintaining functions or existing state?
 - Absorbing external shockers?
 - Bouncing back?
 - Bouncing forward to a new state?
 - Transitioning over time to new state?
 - Transformation over Time?

DEFINING THE EQUITY CHALLENGE

Economy

- Inequitable Distribution of Scarce Resources
- Resource limited and dependent communities and households
- HH with \$76k/yr and more emitted 4x more than those <\$10k/yr
- Minorities are in industries at-risk of job loss (agriculture, polluting biz)

Places

- Environmental risks heat islands, coastal and flood-prone communities, toxic buildings/neighborhoods
- Pre-existing Health risks air pollution, contaminations
- Poor Infrastructure lack of canopy, dilapidated building conditions, antiquated water/sewer systems

People

- Legacy of unmitigated disasters and multiple stressors
- Overburdened civic infrastructure
- Isolated (linguistically, physically, etc.)
- High morbidity/mortality rates among vulnerable populations --Youth, elderly, sick, disabled

CORE QUESTION

- HOW CAN WE BUILD RESILIENCE IN A SOCIETY WITH INEQUITY BUILT IN?
 - Depends upon how we define Adaptation
 - Depends upon how we define Resilience
 - Depends upon our Strategies

<u>HINT</u>: NATURE WILL ADAPT. IT IS HUMANS WHO WILL HAVE TO LEARN TO SURVIVE UNDER RADICALLY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS

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ADAPTATION FRAME

How to rebuild the economy together to be more resilient?

- Green infrastructure
- Livelihood to sustain our families
- Decision making capacities to be able to relieve our stressors
 - Shared identify
 - Common memberships
- Market transformation to harness productive goods and services to meet the need of Adaptation.... (fair decision making, distribution)
- Aggregation of shared power
- Democratic process creates values/participation/
- Social cohesion/ barriers to doing it.

RESILIENCY CHALLENGES/BEST PRACTICES

CHALLENGE	BEST PRACTICES
Economic Resilience	 Localism – local food/energy production Worker cooperatives Import-substitution – mutual aid/exchanges Green jobs – repairing ecosystem
Social Resilience	 Map high risk populations Map & engage community assets Community engagement In planning & implementing emergency response and recovery programs Build functioning community & social networks Sustaining preparedness
Physical Resilience Fairch	 Enforcement of building codes/Green Buildings Safety Zones Green Infrastructure Development **VCommunity Energy Districts/Distributed E